

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

JONATHAN RIVERA-PIEROLA,)
vs.)
Plaintiff,)
Case Number
) CIV-21-616 PRW
BOARD OF REGENTS for the OKLAHOMA)
AGRICULTURAL and MECHANICAL)
COLLEGES, et al.,)
Defendant.)

VIDEOCONFERENCE DEPOSITION OF CARLOS RISCO, DVM
TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE PLAINTIFF
ON JUNE 12, 2023
IN STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA

REPORTED BY: BRENDA SCHMITZ, CSR, RPR (VIA ZOOM)
CITY REPORTERS
14 Northeast 13th Street, Suite 101
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73104
(405)235-3376

Carlos Risco, DVM
June 12, 2023

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1 APPEARANCES:

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3 FOR THE PLAINTIFF: (VIA ZOOM)

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5 MR. JASON J. BACH
Bach Law Firm
6 7881 West Charleston, Suite 165
Las Vegas, NV 89117
Telephone: 702.925.8787
7 Email: jbach@bachlawfirm.com

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10 FOR THE DEFENDANT (VIA ZOOM WITH THE WITNESS):

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STIPULATIONS

2 It is hereby stipulated and agreed by and
3 between the parties hereto, through their respective
4 attorneys, that the video conference deposition of
5 CARLOS RISCO, DVM, may be taken on behalf of the
6 Plaintiff on JUNE 12, 2023, in the City of
7 Stillwater, Oklahoma by Brenda Schmitz, Certified
8 Shorthand Reporter within and for the State of
9 Oklahoma, and Registered Professional Reporter,
10 taken by notice pursuant to the Federal Rules of
11 Civil Procedure.

12 It is further stipulated and agreed by and
13 between the parties hereto, through their respective
14 attorneys, that all objections, except as to the
15 form of the question and the responsiveness of the
16 answer, are reserved until the time of trial, at
17 which time they may be made with the same force and
18 effect as if made at the time of the taking of this
19 deposition.

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Carlos Risco, DVM

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1 And thereupon the following witness was produced
2 by the Plaintiff:

3 CARLOS RISCO, DVM,
4 the witness hereinbefore named, being first duly
5 cautioned and sworn to testify the truth, the whole
6 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified on his
7 oath as follows:

8 DIRECT EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. BACH:

10 Q. Hi, can you state your name for the
11 record, please?

12 A. My name is Carlos Risco.

13 Q. And, Dr. Risco, you understand that my
14 name is Jason Bach, I'm the attorney who represents
15 Jonathan Rivera-Pierola and you understand that he
16 has brought a lawsuit against the university?

17 A. I do.

18 Q. Okay. Have you ever given a deposition
19 before?

20 A. I have, sir. Years ago.

21 Q. Okay. You understand that the court
22 reporter is taking down everything that's being said
23 here today?

24 A. I do.

25 Q. Okay. And the oath that you took is the

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1 example, temperature, pulse, respiration, make
2 observations, working with the technicians who
3 administer the -- the treatment, and to provide back
4 to the clinician, how is the case progressing. Now,
5 the clinician is also involved, it's not like we
6 delegate it to the students, so they're working
7 together, that's -- that's the main difference.

8 Q. Okay. So, I don't want to put words in
9 your mouth, so please -- please tell me if this is
10 accurate. The way I've heard you describe these two
11 separate portions of the program, the preclinical
12 versus the clinical portion, I believe the three
13 years of preclinical you have described are more
14 akin to what I think most people would perceive as
15 being a standard college course, you've described
16 lectures and exams. Would you agree that that's
17 accurate?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. But it sounds like you described a unique
20 nature to the clinical portion of the program, it is
21 different from what the standard college course
22 would look like. Is that correct?

23 A. That's correct.

24 Q. In your time as Dean of the Veterinary
25 School at Oklahoma State, are you aware of any

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1 instances of academic integrity violations being
2 filed or brought against clinical students?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Do you know why that might be?

5 A. When -- so the -- when we use this word
6 "integrity" in the -- there's a number of -- of
7 reasons why that may -- may happen. One, the
8 obvious one, a student cheated on an exam. They
9 copied each other, under that umbrella of cheating.
10 That's one.

11 Another one could be plagiarism, depending
12 on -- depending on the course, our students are
13 asked to gather a report for credit as part of their
14 credit, and, of course, it's plagiarism. The other
15 one that it may happen is, in research, where you
16 simply come up with data, you fill in, and this is
17 not data that came from an observation, whether it's
18 a blood work, whether it's -- regardless of what it
19 is, those are the main -- the main areas.

20 It's -- they -- the integrity of this -- this
21 work in the clinical setting, would be very
22 difficult to -- to document, outside of the fact
23 that you may have a student that then they say,
24 well, the -- remember, I mention that they observed
25 the animal, the temperature, the pulse, the

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ERRATA SHEET

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WITNESS: CARLOS RISCO, DVM

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DATE: JUNE 12, 2023

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REPORTER: Brenda Schmitz, CSR, RPR

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NO CORRECTIONS ARE NECESSARY _____

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PAGE LINE CORRECTION

REASON

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JURAT

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I, CARLOS RISCO, DVM, do hereby state under
oath that I have read the above and foregoing
transcript in its entirety, and that the same is a
full, true, and correct transcription of my
testimony so given at said time and place, except
for the corrections noted.

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CARLOS RISCO, DVM

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SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME, the
undersigned Notary Public in and for the State of
_____ on this, the _____ day of
_____, 2023.

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Notary Public

My Commission Expires: _____

REPORTED BY: BRENDA SCHMITZ, CSR, RPR

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CERTIFICATE

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STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
) SS:
OKLAHOMA COUNTY)

4 I, Brenda Schmitz, Certified Shorthand Reporter
5 within and for the State of Oklahoma, do hereby
6 certify that the above-named CARLOS RISCO, DVM, was
7 by me first duly sworn to testify to the truth, the
8 whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case
9 aforesaid; that the above and foregoing deposition
10 was by me taken in shorthand and thereafter
11 transcribed; that the same is true and correct; and
12 that it was taken on JUNE 12, 2023, at the time of
13 10:04 a.m. in the City of Stillwater, County of
14 Payne, State of Oklahoma under the stipulations
15 hereinbefore set out, and that I am not attorney for
16 or relative of any of said parties or otherwise
17 interested in the event of said action.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
and official seal this 19th day of June, 2023.

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BRENDA SCHMITZ, CSR, RPR #18230
Oklahoma Certified Shorthand Reporter
Certificate No. 00823
Expires: December 31, 2023

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